

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 15 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants amend claims 1, 8, 10, 12 and 14.

Claims 1, 2, 12 and 14

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “an extension board, which is electrically coupled to a first one of the connectors of the backplane, **for transmitting an MPEG transport stream processed by an independent module of the extension board when the extension board is selected**...wherein each of the main board unit and the extension board electrically coupled to the connectors of the backplane includes a transmission signal line for a transmission signal for transmitting a control command of the main board to the extension board, an MPEG transport stream line for an MPEG transport stream, an analog audio/video signal line for an analog audio/video signal and a selection signal line for a selection signal for selecting the extension board.”

The Examiner admits that Chimoto does not disclose that each of the extension board have a MPEG transport stream line and an analog audio/video signal line. To supply for the features missing in Chimoto, the Examiner asserts that the VGA card 318 disclosed in Schindler discloses an expansion card that includes an MPEG transport stream line and an analog audio/video signal line. However, Applicant submits that VGA card does not disclose the unique feature of the extension board recited in claim.

For example, the extension board recited in claim 1 is **for transmitting an MPEG transport stream processed by an independent module of the extension board when the extension board is selected.**

Schindler discloses a VGA card 318, which receives MPEG encoded video, decodes the MPEG data and places the video information into a dynamic random access memory or video random access memory (VRAM). A converter 520 retrieves the information from VRAM 518 and generates analog VGA display signal. Schindler does not disclose that the VGA card 318 is for **transmitting an MPEG transport stream processed by an independent module of the extension board.**

In particular, MPEG-2 decoder decodes the MPEG encoded video received from the PCI bus 312, stores the video information in VRAM and converts the information and generates analog VGA display signals. Schindler does not disclose that the VGA card **transmits MPEG transport stream processed by an independent module of the extension board.** On the contrary, Schindler discloses that **analog VGA display signals** and not **MPEG transport stream** are available for display. In fact, the VGA card 18 which receives MPEG data and transmits analog VGA display signals disclosed in Schindler **teaches away** from the extension board recited in claim 1 which transmits MPEG transport stream.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, **“wherein if a command corresponding to menu items from the extension board is received, the main board unit displays the received menu items on a screen, and if a menu item displayed on the screen is selected in the main board, the extension board executes a command corresponding to the selected menu item.”**

Applicant submits that Chimoto and Schindler do not disclose the unique feature recited above.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that since Schindler and Chimoto, alone or in combination, would not disclose all the features of the extension board as recited in claim 1, claim 1 is allowable over the cited references.

Claims 2, 12 and 14

Claim 2, 12 and 14 recite subject matter analogous to claim 1, and therefore are allowable for at least the similar reasons claim 1 is shown to be allowable.

Claims 4-9 and 15

Claims 4-9 and 15 depend from one of the independent claims that have been shown to be allowable, and therefore they are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 6, 8, 15

Applicant submits that since claim 6 depend from claim 1 and since Trovato does not cure the above noted deficiency with respect to claim 1, claim 6 should be allowable at least by virtue of its dependency.

With regard to claims 8 and 15, Applicant submits that since claims 8 and 15 depend from one of the independent claims mentioned above and since Battini does not cure the deficiency noted above with respect to claims 1 and 14, claims 8 and 15 should be allowable by virtue of their dependency and additional limitations thereof.

Claims 10 and 11

Claim 10 recites, *inter alia*, “displaying a signal corresponding to the function of the extension board performed..., on a screen.”

The Examiner asserts that column 4, lines 6-61 discloses the unique feature recited in claim 10. Applicants disagree for at least for the following reasons.

Trovato is directed to an upgradeable television which has the capability of being upgraded automatically when new hardware and software are installed. Trovato discloses that in the method of upgrading the device a module is replaced manually. The device initiates an identification sequence and identifies itself to the operating system. If there are changes in the modules, the operating system determines if any software is missing. If software is needed or problem exists, the operating system signals a receiver to go into listen mode to retrieve the needed software or resources. Finally the device is upgraded using the software (column 5, line 59-column 6, line 19). However, Trovato does not disclose **displaying a signal corresponding to the function of the extension board performed, on a screen.**

The Examiner asserts that, “if the module is a video signal processing unit or a graphic processor, then the system will utilize the module’s functions and display the video or graphics on the display or screen.” (page 9, lines 13-15 of the Office Action). However, there is no such disclosure in the portion cited by the Examiner. Furthermore, the Examiner does not give weight to all the features of claim 10, particularly to the operation of **displaying a signal corresponding to the function of the extension board that was performed according to the characteristics of the extension board that was analyzed.**

Specifically, in page 4, line 6-66, Trovato discloses that at start up or power up each hardware component (modules 16) identifies itself to the operating system. The operating system further checks the identification information against the registry to determine if changes have been made. Once new modules are identified, an automatic upgrade may be provided. Also, when new modules are identified, device 10 includes a mechanism such as a control signal which enables a listening mode to “listen” for new drives, application software or other information needed to integrate and upgrade device. (column 4, lines 45-61).

Trovato discloses a module identifying itself to the operating system, checking if there is change in the module, listening for new driver’s and software applicant and delivering the software to the upgradeable device; Trovato does not disclose display a signal corresponding to the function of the extension board that was performed according to the characteristics of the extension board that was analyzed. Whetsel and Chimoto do not disclose the missing features noted above.

Furthermore, claim 10 recites “wherein if a command corresponding to menu items from the extension board is received, displaying the received menu items on the screen, and if a menu item displayed on the screen is selected in the main board, executing a command corresponding to the selected menu item.” Applicant submits that Trovato, Whetsel and Chimoto do not disclosure the unique features of claim 1.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that since Trovato, Whetsel and Chimoto, alone or in combination, do not disclose all features recited in claim 10, claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference.

Claim 11

Applicant submits that claim 11 depends from claim 10, and therefore should be allowable at least by virtue of its dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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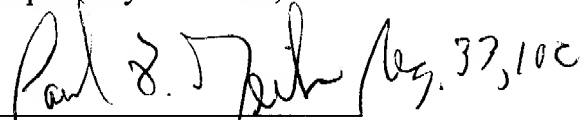
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